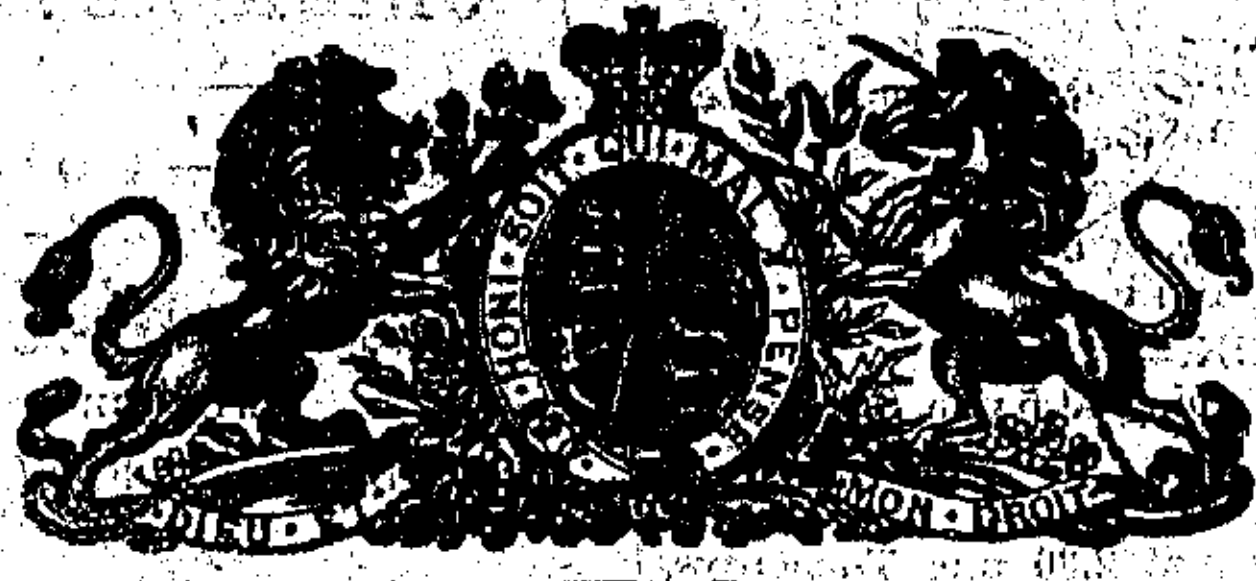


CHINA



MAIL.

Established February, 1848.

With which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List." Published every Evening.

VOL. XXXIV. No. 4577.

號五月三年八十七百八千一英

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 1878.

日二初月二年寅戊

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON:—F. ALGAR, 8, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street. GEORGE STREET, 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GOSCH, Ludgate Circus, E. C. BATES, HENDY & CO., 4, Old Jewry, E. C. SAMUEL DRAGON & CO., 160 & 164, Leadenhall Street.
PARIS AND EUROPE:—LEON DE ROSEN, 19, Rue Monsieur, Paris.
NEW YORK:—ANDREW WIND, 133, Nassau Street.
AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND:—GORDON & GOSCH, Melbourne and Sydney.
SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally:—BRAM & BLACK, San Francisco.
SINGAPORE AND STRAITS:—SAYLE & CO., Square, Singapore. C. HEINEKEN & CO., Manila.
CHINA:—SWATOW, CAMPBELL & CO., Amoy, WILSON, NICHOLLS & CO., Foochow, HEDDER & CO., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KERRY & WALSH, Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Bank.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, 5,000,000 Dollars.
RESERVE FUND, 1,000,000 Dollars.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—F. D. SASSON, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—W. H. FORBES, Esq.
E. R. BELLIOS, Esq. ADAM LIND, Esq.
H. L. DALEY, Esq. WILHELM REINER, Esq.
H. HOFFMANN, Esq. W. S. YOUNG, Esq.
Hon. W. KEWICK.

CHIEF MANAGER.

Hongkong, Thomas JACKSON, Esq.
Shanghai, Ewen CAMERON, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED.
ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits:—
For 3 months, 2 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 per cent. " "
" 12 " 5 per cent. " "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.
Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road East.
Hongkong, February 27, 1878.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

MR. HORATIO GAY JAMES was admitted a Partner in our Firm on the 1st January, 1878.

GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.

Hongkong, January 5, 1878.

NOTICE.

I HAVE This Day established myself at this Port as a MERCHANT and COMMISSION AGENT, under the Style or Firm of GEO. R. STEVENS & Co., who will henceforward conduct the Agency of the AUSTRALIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

G. R. STEVENS.

Hongkong, December 29, 1877.

NOTICE.

MR. H. F. MEYERINK has been admitted a Partner in our Firm from This Date.

MEYER & Co.

Hongkong, January 1, 1878.

NOTICE.

I HAVE This Day Established myself at this Port, under the Style or Firm, WEST POINT IRON WORKS, ENGINEERS and BOILERMAKERS, by

WILLIAM DUNPHY & Co.,
Late Manager of the NOVELTY IRON WORKS,
Hongkong.

WM. DUNPHY.

Hongkong, December 10, 1877.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE.

LARGE TAKASIMA COAL,
Ex Godown at \$8 PER TON.

Apply to

THE C. GLOVER,

No. 7, Queen's Road Central, and East Point.

Hongkong, February 18, 1878.

COAL.

BEST QUALITY CARDIFF STEAM COAL for Sale, ex Godown.

Apply to

BATTLES & Co.

Hongkong, December 2, 1877.

For Sale.

LAMBERT, ATKINSON & CO. HAVE FOR SALE.

Ex M. M. S. S. "AVAL"
AND OTHER RECENT ARRIVALS.

TEYSSONNEAU'S STRAWBERRIES in SYRUP.
TEYSSONNEAU'S ASSORTED FRUITS in NOYEAU.

TEYSSONNEAU'S ASSORTED FRUITS in BRANDY.
TEYSSONNEAU'S ASSORTED PATES, in Patent Tins.

TEYSSONNEAU'S PATE DE FOIE GRAS, in Patent Tins.

TEYSSONNEAU'S ASSORTED JAMS and JELLIES, in Glass Bottles.

PHILIPPE and CANAUD'S ASSORTED PATES.

PHILIPPE and CANAUD'S LONG ASPARAGUS.

PHILIPPE and CANAUD'S SARDINES.

FENARD & FILS'

CHERBOURG BUTTER, in Bottles.

CIGARETTES, COMPAGNIE LAFERME.

RICHMOND SMOKING MIXTURE. BARCELONA NUTS.

BRAZIL NUTS. PEANUTS.

ALMONDS in SHELL. SMYRNA FIGS.

MUSCATEL BLOOM RAISINS, in Cartons.

EPPE'S COCOA.

BORDEN'S CONDENSED MILK. GOLDEN GATE FLOUR, in Barrels.

GALEFINE and ISINGLAS, in 1 lb. Packets.

WAFFLE IRONS. AMERICAN BROILERS.

VERY FINE
"O. K." BOURBON WHISKY.

BILLIARD CUE TIPS. BILLIARD CUE CEMENT.

BILLIARD CHALK. BILLIARD TABLE CLOTHS.

BARCLAY and PERKINS' PORTER, in Hogsheads.

HORN'S BEST QUALITY RUSSIAN ROPE. HORN'S ASSORTED TARKED and WHITE LINS.

FAIRBANKS' SCALES.

do., do., do.

Hongkong, February 22, 1878.

Intimations.

THE STAGHOTE, 10, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

IS now undergoing EXTENSIVE ALTERATIONS and REPAIRS, and will be ENTIRELY RE-FURNISHED and OPENED for BUSINESS on 9th March, 1878, under new Management.

First rate Accommodation for Visitors. Attached to the Hotel is a commodious Billiard Room.

WINES and SPIRITS of the BEST QUALITY ONLY.

PROPRIETOR—J. COOK.
STAG HOTEL, QUEEN'S ROAD.
Hongkong, March 4, 1878.

NOTICE.

THE HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of MEMBERS of the HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE will be held at the City Hall, on THURSDAY, the 7th Proximo, 1878, at 4 p.m.

By Order,

E. GEORGE,

Secretary.

Hongkong, February 26, 1878.



NAVAL CONTRACT, 1878-79.

SEALED TENDERS, in duplicate, will be Received by the Undersigned, until Noon on FRIDAY, the 15th March, 1878, from Persons desirous of SUPPLYING the following ARTICLES for the use of H. M. Navy for the year 1878-79, viz:—

FRESH BEEF. TEA.
FRESH VEGETABLES. RAISINS.
RICE. WATER.
SUGAR. SOFT BREAD.

BISCUITS.

Printed Forms of Tender and further particulars can be obtained at the Naval Storekeeper's Office.

The right to reject the lowest or any Tender is reserved.

J. BRENNER,

Storekeeper.

H. M. Victualling Yard,
Hongkong, February 28, 1878.

STANDARD FIRE OFFICE, LONDON.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents to the above Company at this Port, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire to the extent of \$40,000, on Buildings or on Goods stored therein.

Discount 20 %

VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.
Hongkong, March 1, 1878.

Intimations.

EX LATE ARRIVALS.

UMBRELLAS, AUTOMATON PATENT. NOVELTIES in TIES and SCARFS.

COLLARS and SHIRTS, in New Shapes. CHRISTY'S Newest Shapes in HATS.

TALL BLACK SILK and DRAB HATS. ELWOOD'S CORK and FELT HELMETS.

MEERSCHAUM and BRIAR PIPES. CIGAR TUBES, Assorted.

LAWN TENNIS BATS and BALLS. RACQUET BATS and BALLS.

CRICKET BATS, BALLS and STUMPS. CABINETS of GAMES.

LADIES' DRESSING BAGS, Fitted. MANTEL-PIECE MIRRORS.

FRENCH and ENGLISH DOLLS. AMERICAN ICE PITCHERS.

RUSSIAN CIGARETTES. SILBER KEROSENE LAMPS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, February 25, 1878.

THE CHINESE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Seventh Ordinary MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at the Head Office, Victoria, Hongkong, on FRIDAY, the 22nd March, 1878, at 3 o'clock p.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1877.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 8th March to the 22nd March, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,

OLYPHANT & Co.,

General Agents.

Hongkong, February 22, 1878.

DENTAL NOTICE.

D. R. ROGERS begs to intimate to his Friends that he is about to visit SHANGHAI, and will be absent from Hongkong from April 1st to June 15th.

Hongkong, March 4, 1878.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

TENDERS are invited for a LEASE of the HONGKONG HOTEL, the present Five-yearly Lease expiring on the 31st August, 1878. SEALED TENDERS to be sent in on or before the 31st March, 1878, to the Secretary of the HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED, who will supply any information required.

By Order of the Directors,

LOUIS HAUSCHILD,

Secretary.

Hongkong, September 16, 1877.

NOTICE.

OFFICE OF THE SHANGHAI STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, IN LIQUIDATION.

A THIRD RETURN of CAPITAL and INTEREST at the Rate of FIVE TAELS per SHARE will be made to Shareholders of Record on the 28th February, Payable at the Office of the Liquidators, on the 8th March.

Warrants will be delivered by the Undersigned to Shareholders, or their lawful representatives, on presentation of Share Certificates for Endorsement.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 1st to the 8th March inclusive.

By Order,

RUSSELL & Co.,

Liquidators.

Shanghai, February 28, 1878.

DEVORE'S BRILLIANT OIL.

RELIABLE, ECONOMICAL, SAFE!!

DESIRING to benefit by the world-wide reputation of our Oil, certain parties have attempted to imitate our packages. Suits at law have been instituted against the MAKERS and PURCHASERS of these imitations. Buyers should be careful to see that the words "DEVORE'S BRILLIANT" are stencilled on the cases, and the words "DEVORE MFG CO. PATENTS" are stamped on the top of the can.

THE DEVORE MANUFACTURING Co.,

80 Beaver and 127 Pearl Streets,

NEW YORK, U. S. A.

[111]

Auctions.

HORSE AUCTION.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on

THURSDAY,

the 7th March, 1878, at 4 o'clock p.m., at the Fountain opposite the City Hall, (granted by kind permission of the Acting Captain Superintendent of Police),

The following well-known RACERS and HACKS:—

"COCKCHAFFER."
"COCKROACH."
"THE PRINCE."
"THE DOCTOR."

"STANDARD BEARER."
"WAVELEY."
"STEAM-BOAT."
"GUN COTTON."
"WHIPCORD."
"SPURS."

"MARTINGALE."
"TWINKLE," broken to Harness.

The Australian Roan Gelding "RAPID RHONE."

The Australian Gelding "WARLOCK."

The Griffin "FANTAY."

And others which will be advertised hereafter.

TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery, in Mexican Dollars, weighed at 1.17.

The Lot or Lots, with all faults and errors of description, at purchaser's risk on the fall of the hammer.

Hongkong, March 5, 1878.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

Plaintiff—CHUN A-YAU.
Defendant—NG A-KW.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from the Registrar of the Supreme Court of Hongkong, to sell by Public Auction, under a Decree of the Court made in the above Suit, on the Premises, on

FRIDAY,

the 15th March, 1878, at THREE o'clock in the Afternoon,—

All that PIECE or PARCEL of GROUND, situate lying and being at Victoria, in the Island of Hongkong, abutting on the North side thereof on the Praya, and measuring thereon Fourteen feet;

on the South side thereof on a Public Road and measuring thereon Fourteen feet; on the East side thereof on a Close registered in the Land Office as Marine Lot No. 70, and measuring thereon One Hundred feet; and on the West side thereof on a Close registered in the Land Office as Marine Lot No. 206, and measuring thereon One Hundred feet, which said PIECE or PARCEL of Ground contains in the whole One Thousand and Four Hundred square feet, and is registered in the Land Office as MARINE LOT NO. 80.

For the residue of the term of 999 years created by a Crown Lease dated the 28th day of May, 1867; to commence from the 28th day of December, 1866, subject to the Yearly Rent of Twenty-four Dollars and Sixty-eight Cents, and to all other covenants conditions and stipulations in the said Lease reserved or contained.

The foregoing Property will be sold subject to a Mortgage of \$4,600 and interest thereon at 8 per cent. per annum calculated from the 28th day of January, 1878, and the said Mortgage expires on the 28th day of January, 1879.

For further Particulars and Conditions of Sale, apply to WILLIAM HENRY BREZTON, Solicitor for the Plaintiff, 29, Queen's Road, Hongkong.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, February 25, 1878.

Shipping.

Steamers.

FOR AMOY, TAMSUI & TAIWANFOO.
The Steamship
"ALBANY,"

Capt. F. ASHTON, will be despatched for the above Ports on WEDNESDAY, the 6th Instant, at Day-light.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LAFRAIK & Co.

Hongkong, March 2, 1878.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY & FOOCHOW.
The Steamship
"KWANGTUNG,"

Captain WESTON, will be despatched for the above Ports on THURSDAY, the 7th Instant, at Day-light.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LAFRAIK & Co.

Hongkong, March 4, 1878.

FOR SINGAPORE AND PENANG.
The British Steamer
"AMBOTO,"

Capt. BROWN, will load here for the above Ports, and will leave this on THURSDAY, the 7th Instant, at 2 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to HOP KEE & Co.

Hongkong, March 4, 1878.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.
PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Company's Steamship,
"VOLGA,"

Comdt. ROZAN, will be despatched for YOKOHAMA shortly after the arrival of the next French Mail, expected on or about TUESDAY, the 5th Instant.

H. DU POUY,
Agent.

Hongkong, March 1, 1878.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.
PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Company's Steamship
"ANADYR,"

Comdt. MORBAU, will be despatched for SHANGHAI shortly after her arrival from Europe.

H. DU POUY,
Agent.

Hongkong, March 1, 1878.

MONTHLY SERVICE.

FOR PORT DARWIN, COOKTOWN, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, and the usual Ports.

One of the Australasian S. N. Co.'s Steamers will leave this for the above Ports on or about the 20th Proximo.

For Freight or Passage, apply to GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.

Hongkong, February 25, 1878.

FOR BRISBANE, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

(Calling at the usual AUSTRALIAN COAST Ports).

The Eastern and Australian Mail Steam Co.'s Str.
"SOMERSET,"

will be despatched from SINGAPORE for the above Ports on the 6th Proximo.

For Freight or Passage, apply to the Undersigned, who are prepared to grant through Bills of Lading.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, February 20, 1878.

Sailing Vessels.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.
The A 1 American ship
"CHARGER,"

will load here for the above Port, and have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, March 2, 1878.

FOR LONDON.
The 100 A 1 British Ship
"BROOMHALL,"

H. BATE, Master, will load here and have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to MEYER & Co.

Hongkong, January 7, 1878.

FOR LONDON.
(To follow the Broomhall).
The A 1 British Bark
"FALCON,"

DAVID BARRY, Master, will load here and have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to MEYER & Co.

Intimations.

G. FALCONER & Co.,
WATCH AND CHRONOMETER
MANUFACTURERS,
AND
JEWELLERS.
NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHARTS
AND BOOKS.
46, Queen's Road Central,
Hongkong, February 20, 1878. me20

W. BALL,
CHINA DISPENSARY.
IMPORTER OF DRUGS, CHEMICALS,
DRUGGISTS' Sundries, TOILET
REQUISITES, PATENT MEDI-
CINES AND PERFUMES.
Prescriptions Dispensed with Carefulness,
and Prompt Attention.

PRAYA WEST, HONGKONG,
Near the Canton Steamer's Wharf,
Hongkong, July 13, 1878.

AFONG,
PHOTOGRAPHER,
by appointment, to
H. E. SIR ARTHUR KENNEDY,
GOVERNOR OF HONGKONG;
and to
H. L. H. THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS
OF RUSSIA.

Wyndham Street, formerly ATHLETIC CLUB,
HAS on hand the Largest and Best
collection of Views of China, Pho-
tographic Albums, Frames, Cases, &c., of
various sizes. Ex. S. S. 7/4, Revolving
Standard Albums, Armorial Monograms
and Postage Stamp Albums, Russia Leather,
Velvet and carved-wood Albums, Cases and
Frames, nice Albums for Cabinet Portraits
only, Portraits of the Generals of the pre-
sent Russo-Turkish War, Eminent British
Statesmen, the two Chinese Ambassadors,
in Cabinet and Carte de Visite sizes
Coloured Portraits of English Ladies.
Hongkong, August 24, 1877.

KWONG HING CHEUNG & Co.,
COAL MERCHANTS,
Have always on hand for Sale every
description of COAL at Moderate Prices.
Mr. ARNOLD has been appointed Manager,
and all Orders addressed to him at 57,
Fray's, or to Mr. FAT JAC, at 30, Hing
Lung Street, will receive immediate atten-
tion. Hongkong, March 19, 1877. me19

Notices to Consignees.
**COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.**

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
CONSIGNEES of the following Cargo
are requested to send in their Bills of
Lading to the Underigned for counter-
signature, and take immediate delivery.
This Cargo has been landed and stored at
their risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.
H. DU POUY,
Agent.

Ex "Ava."
FP (in diamond) No. 177/8 Order, } from
2 cases Hats, } London.

Ex "Amazona."
WGG No. 4201, Mr W. G. Greig, 1 case
Wine, from Marseilles.

" " 4202, Mr W. G. Greig, 3 cases
Brandy, from Marseilles.

" " 4203, Mr W. G. Greig, 8 cases
Brandy, from Marseilles.

" " 3250/55, Order, 6 cases Cham-
pagne, from Marseilles.

Hongkong, February 28, 1878.

NOW READY.

**CHINESE DICTIONARY IN THE
CANTONESE DIALECT.** Parts I
and II, A to M, with Introduction. Royal
Svo. 404.—By ERNEST JOHN EITEL,
Ph.D. Tubingen.

Price: FIVE DOLLARS, or TWO DOLLARS
AND A HALF per Part.

To be had from Messrs LANE, CRAWFORD
& Co., Hongkong and Shanghai; and Messrs
KILBY & WATSON, Shanghai.

Hongkong, March 1, 1878.

To-day's Advertisements.

**YANGTZE INSURANCE ASSOCIA-
TION.**

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

IN Accordance with the Articles of Agree-
ment, the Directors have declared a
Dividend to Policy-holders for the fiscal
Year ending 30th September, 1877, of
TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT. on the
NET PREMIUM CONTRIBUTED.

Warrants will be delivered by the Under-
signed to Contributors of Premium at this
Port, on and after the 9th Instant.

Policy-holders are requested to send in
particulars of their Contributions.

By Order of the Directors,
RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, March 8, 1878. ap6

**FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND
SINGAPORE.**

THE S. S. Venice having arrived from
the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo
are hereby requested to send their Bills of
Lading for counter-signature to the Under-
signed, and to take immediate delivery of
their Goods.

Cargo impeding the discharge will be at
once landed and stored at Consignees' risk
and expense.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.
Hongkong, March 5, 1878. me12

TO LET.
THE GODDONS AND OFFICES, Praya
Central, recently in the occupation of
A. McE. Heaton, Esq.
Apply to
RUSSELL & Co.
Hongkong, March 4, 1878. me10

To-day's Advertisements.

FOR AMOY, TAMSUI & TAIWANFOO.
The Steamship
"ALBA,"
Capt. F. ASHTON, will be de-
spatched for the above Ports,
on THURSDAY, the 7th Instant, at Noon,
instead of as previously advertised.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.
Hongkong, March 5, 1878. me7

FOR BANGKOK.
The Steamship
"MADAGASCAR,"
Trim, Master, will be de-
spatched for the above Port
on FRIDAY, the 8th Instant, at 2 p.m.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
SIEMSEN & Co.
Hongkong, March 5, 1878. me8

**CHINA SUGAR REFINING
COMPANY, LIMITED.**

THIS REFINERY MANUFACTURES

LOAF SUGAR, (in 5, 10, and 15 lbs.
Leaves.)
Cut and Powdered LOAF SUGAR.
CUBE SUGAR (Lytle's Patent), shortly.
CRYSTALLIZED SUGAR, mark C. S. R.
(in diamond) A I I I.
FINE WHITE SUGAR, mark C. S. R.
(in diamond) A I I.
Medium WHITE SUGAR, mark C. S. R.
(in diamond) A I I.
FINE YELLOW SUGAR, mark C. S. R.
(in diamond) A I I.
COFFEE SUGAR, mark C. S. R.
(in diamond) B I.
GOLDEN SYRUP, SYRUP, and
MOLASSES.
SPIRITS OF WINE and LAMP SPIRIT.
RUM, 45°, 50°, O. P., and Naval.
ANIMAL CHARCOAL and DUST.
AMMONIACAL LIQUOR, from Bones.
BONE TAR (a preventive of white ants.)
ROUGH BONE TALLOW.

Packed in Quantities and Packages to suit
Customers.

Particulars and Prices on application to
THE MANAGERS,
CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO., LIMITED,
East Point,
Hongkong.

March 5, 1878. me6

Not Responsible for Debts.

**Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor
Owners will be Responsible for any
Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew
of the following Vessels, during their stay
in Hongkong Harbour:—**

QUINCY, American barque, Captain
Barnaby.—Captain.

TARTAR, German brig, Captain Kaemenn.
—Melchers & Co.

MARIE, German barque, Captain Hun-
dewadt.—Wieler & Co.

PALESTINE, British barque, Captain E.
Scowcroft.—Tal Lee.

LOUISA, German 3-m. schooner, Captain
Sohlerloh.—Edward Sobellhaus & Co.

MARQUIS OF ARBYLE, British barque,
Captain W. McKee.—Rozario & Co.

NORTH STAR, American ship, Captain
J. U. Thomson.—Order.

DANUBE, British steamer, Captain A.
Clanohy.—Yuen Fat Hong.

P. J. CARLETON, American barque, Capt.
J. A. Amburg.—P. & O. Co.

THE LT. German barque, Captain T. O.
Petersen.—Wm. Pustau & Co.

FRONTIER, British steamer, Captain
Mackie.—Chinese.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

March 5, Ping On, American steamer,
777, A. A. McCarlin, Shanghai Feb. 23,
Rica.—O. M. S. N. Co.

March 5, Volga, French steamer, 1023,
Rolland, Yokohama Feb. 26, Mails and
General.—MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

March 5, Venice, British steamer, 1271,
Rhode, Calcutta, Feb. 17, Penang 23, and
Singapore 26, General.—JARDINE, MATHE-
SON & Co.

March 5, Hakan Adalsten, Norwegian
steamer, 905, O. O. Bergh, Saigon Feb. 27,
Salt.—ARNOLD, KARBBERG & Co.

March 5, Hei Cheong, British barque,
338, Jas. Kent, Bangkok Jan. 26, General.
—CHINESE.

March 5, Ulysses, British steamer, 1580,
Liverpool Jan. 6, via Suez, and Singapore,
General.—BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

DEPARTURES.

Mar. 5, Ping On, for Canton.

5, Amoy, for Canton.

5, Marie, for Newchwang.

5, Fidelio, for Newchwang.

5, Lapwing, British gunboat, for a
cruise.

5, Calcutta, for London and Hamburg.

5, Putnam, for Manila.

5, Benedit, for Bangkok.

5, Dauphin, for Labuan.

5, Georgina, for Chetoo.

POST OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS.

MAILS will close:—

FOR MANILA.
For barque Minerva, at 4 p.m., on Wed-
nesday, the 6th inst.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY & FOOSHOW.
For Kwangtung, at 5 p.m., on Wednes-
day, the 6th inst.

FOR BANGKOK.
For Tientsin Abbey, at 5 p.m. To-morrow,
the 6th inst.

FOR SAIGON.
For Zanzibar, at 2.30 p.m. To-morrow,
the 6th inst.

FOR AMOY, TAMSUI & TAIWAN.
For Amoy, at noon, on Thursday, the
7th inst., instead of as previously
notified.

FOR STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
For Amboi, at 3.30 p.m., on Thursday,
the 7th inst., instead of as previously
notified.

FOR SAIGON.
For Mercia, at 4.30 p.m., on Thursday,
the 7th inst.

FOR BANGKOK.
For Madagascara, at 1.30 p.m., on Friday,
the 8th inst.

**For Danube, at 4.30 p.m., on Friday, the
8th inst.**

MAILS BY THE FRENCH PACKET.
The French Contract Packet Aca. will
be despatched from Hongkong on
THURSDAY, the 7th March, with
Mails to and through the United
Kingdom and Europe, via Mar-
seille; to Saigon, Singapore, Bata-
via, Galle, Pondicherry, Madras,
Calcutta, Bombay, Aden, Suez, and
Alexandria.

The following will be the hours of closing
the Mails, &c.:—

Wednesday, 6th March.—
5 p.m., Money Order Office closes. Post
Office closes except the Night Box,
which remains open all night.

Thursday, 7th March.—
7 a.m., Post Office opens for sale of
Stamps, Registry of Letters, and
Posting of all correspondence.

10 a.m., Registry of Letters ceases.

11 a.m., Post Office closes except for Late
Letters.

11.10 a.m., Letters (but Letters only)
except those to and through Australia,
may be posted on payment of a
Late Fee of 18 cents extra postage,
until

11.30 a.m., when the Post Office Closes
entirely.

Hongkong, February 21, 1878. me7

MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES PACKET.
The United States Mail Packet Belgic
will be despatched on MONDAY, the
11th March, with Mails for Japan,
San Francisco, and the United States,
which will be closed as follows:—

2 p.m., Registry of Letters ceases.

2.30 p.m., Post-Office closes, but Letters
(except for Non-Union Countries) may
be posted on board the Packet with
Late Fee of 18 cents extra Postage
until the time of departure.

Correspondence for Non-Union West Indies
(except the Bahamas and Hayti), Costa
Rica, Honduras, Monte Video, New
Granada, Paraguay, and Uruguay can
no longer be sent by this route.

Hongkong, February 25, 1878. me11

MAILS BY THE ENGLISH PACKET.
The English Contract Packet LOM-
BARDY, will be despatched with the
Mails for Europe, &c., on THURS-
DAY, the 14th instant.

The following will be the hours of closing
the Mails, &c.:—

Wednesday, 13th instant.—
5 p.m., Money Order Office closes.

6 p.m., Post Office closes except the Night
Box, which remains open all night.

Thursday, 14th instant.—
7 a.m., Post Office opens for sale
of Stamps, Registry of Letters, and
Posting of all correspondence.

10 a.m., Post Office closes except for Late
Letters. Registry of Letters ceases.

10.15 a.m., Letters may be posted with
Late Fee of 18 cents extra
Postage till

11 a.m., when the Post Office Closes
entirely.

11.30 a.m., Letters (but Letters only)
addressed to the United Kingdom
via Brindisi, or to Singapore, may
be posted on board the Packet with
Late Fee of 48 cents extra postage,
till

11.50 a.m., when the Mail is finally
closed.

Hongkong, March 1, 1878. me14

General Memoranda.

THURSDAY, March 7:—

Daylight.—Kwangtung leaves for Coast
Ports.

Noon.—French Mail leaves for Ports of
Call and Europe.

Noon.—Amoy leaves for Amoy and
Formosa.

2 p.m.—Amboi leaves for Singapore, &c.

4 p.m.—Meeting of H. K. General Cham-
ber of Commerce, at the City Hall.

4 p.m.—Sale of Horses, opposite the
City Hall.

FRIDAY, March 8:—

2 p.m.—Madagascara leaves for Bangkok.
Transfer Books of The Chinese Insurance
Co., Ltd., closed from this date to 22nd
March, inclusive.

MONDAY, March 11:—

8 p.m.—Occidental & Oriental S. S. Co.'s
Steamer leaves for Yokohama and San
Francisco on or about this date.

Volume Sixth of the "CHINA REVIEW."

No. IV.—Vol. VI.
—OF THE—
"CHINA REVIEW"

**WILL BE
READY IN A FEW DAYS.**

China Mail Office,
Hongkong, March 4, 1878

**THE
HONGKONG DISPENSARY,**
Established A.D. 1841.

香港大藥房

A. S. WATSON & Co.,
FAMILY & DISPENSING CHEMISTS,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
IMPORTERS

OF
DRUGGISTS' Sundries, NURSERY REQUI-
SITES, TOILET REQUISITES, ENGLISH,
AMERICAN, AND FRENCH PATENT
MEDICINES.

MANUFACTURERS

Soda Water, Lemonade, Tonic Water,
Gingerade, Potash Water, Sarsaparilla
Water, and other Aerated Waters.

The Manufactory is under direct and
continuous European Supervision.

Hongkong, June 1, 1876.

The publication of this issue commenced
at 7.10 p.m.

THE CHINA MAIL.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 1878.

This most remarkable feature in the Race
Meeting that has just been concluded
was unquestionably the weather. On
Wednesday it was pouring with rain up
to at least a late hour of the evening,
but on the following day the Races were
inaugurated in bright, enjoyable weather,
which continued unintermittently until
the close of the three days' proceedings
on Saturday. On Sunday the weather
was again wretched; yesterday, however,
it cleared up apparently for the special
purpose of favouring the gathering on
the "Off Day," while, more singular
still, to-day the Clerk of the Weather
has certainly not been sparing with his
water supply. Altogether the meet-
ing may, we think, be regarded as a
fairly successful one. Doubtless those
who "dropped" heavily on the races hold
a different opinion, but any little dis-
satisfaction on their part with the "events"
may be regarded as fully counterbalanced
by the joyous exuberance of those who
won. There was one element in the
proceedings which did not strike us as
particularly welcome one. We allude to the
open and professional "sweeps" in full
swing under the Grand Stand. It may,
of course, be argued that there is little
difference between "sweeps" privately
arranged among friends and those open
to all and which are made a business.
But it seems to us there is an important
difference. It is just here where the
respectability of gatherings of this kind
begins to vanish, and some of the worst
evils of the race-course are afforded an
opening. In this Colony elements of
this kind in our annual festival in the
"Happy Valley" are all the more
objectionable because our race meeting,
at least within the "enclosure," is a sort
of social gathering, where anything akin
to the professional gentleman with the
bag is supposed to be tabooed. Certainly
a number of those noisy gentlemen
is accustomed to meet on the race-course
at home would be a most unpleasant and
objectionable addition to the persons of
the "enclosure," or any other part of
the course. We have no complaints to
make of the manner in which these public
sweeps were conducted. It is true that
we heard some grumbling in connection
with the affair, but even private
"sweeps" are sometimes not altogether
free from objections.

SOME interesting remarks are made
in Messrs W. J. and R. Thompson's
report on the Tea Trade during 1877.
The year was, they state, one
of disappointment and loss to the
majority of importers. "Instead of
the improvement looked for at the
commencement of the year, further
depression set in, consequent upon the
export of 1876-77 exceeding previous
estimates, and forced sales of old im-
ports brought down prices to an ex-
tremely low range. The first of the
new teas arrived on the 3rd July;
some 2,000 chests were sold, but on the
second day the market collapsed, and
several importers, unwilling to hold, in
consequence of the excessive shipments
and inferior quality, resorted to auction
'without reserve,' establishing prices
never before known for new season's
tea." The market subsequently rallied
a little for the better kinds, but, with
the exception of specially selected cho-
pols, Messrs Thompson assert, has been
the general experience. The quality of
the tea coming from Foochow is greatly
complained of. Of the Indian Tea Trade
an even worse report is given. The
quality of the crop is said to have been
very far below the average, owing to the
unfavourable climatic influences, which
were experienced in all the tea-grow-
ing districts, Darjeeling excepted. The

low prices of China teas had checked
the natural increase in the consump-
tion of Indian teas; and the stock
accumulating, the prices steadily declined
for common to medium grades until the
close of the year. The imports of these
teas into the United Kingdom for the
year are placed at 186,500,000 lbs. against
186,250,000 in 1876; the deliveries for
home consumption 151,000,000 lbs. against
150,250,000 in 1876; the deliveries for
exportation 35,500,000 lbs. against
29,250,000 in 1876, and the stock
remaining on the 31st December was
estimated at 110,000,000, being exactly
the same as last year.

THE latest Bangkok papers to hand con-
tain the notification of the Siamese
Government removing the embargo on
the exportation of rice. The notification
states that, during the past year, in some
provinces the grain cultivators realised
half a crop; in others one fourth; in
others one fifth; in others one tenth; in
others only one eleventh, while in many
provinces there was no crop at all:—

"To continue, however, the embargo fur-
ther and prevent merchants from purchasing
and exporting grain to foreign countries might
be embarrassing to the merchants, and a
detriment to commerce. H. M. the King
has therefore issued a Royal Mandate direct-
ing the removal of the embargo, and per-
mitting the inhabitants, the home and foreign
merchants, to purchase, sell, and export grain
as in former years. This proclamation to take
effect on the Jan. 18th, 1878. Should, how-
ever, the retail price of rice so increase as to
be beyond the ability of the poor people to
obtain food, we should be compelled to renege
again for an embargo to prevent merchants
exporting rice to foreign countries till the
grain cultivators shall realize full crops, after
which permission for export to foreign coun-
tries as usual will be granted."

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.
[SUPPLIED TO THE "CHINA MAIL."]
(By Southern Route.)

THE WAR.

London, 3rd March, 1878.

Four divisions of the Reserve of the
Russian Army have been called out for
military service.

The British Navy Estimates for the year
amount to £11,000,000 [for last year they
were £10,879,829].

The Marquis of Abercorn has been in-
vested with the Order of the Garter left
vacant by the death of Victor Emmanuel.

The Times announces that the Porte has
given orders to the Governor of the
Dardanelles to prevent the passage of any
more war vessels.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The P. & O. steamer *Geelong*, with the
next English mail, was to leave Singapore
for this port yesterday (Monday) afternoon.

We note that stocks have been hardening
in view of recent telegrams, and that
"Banks" especially have been much more
healthy than they were yesterday.

YESTERDAY morning, after the steamer
Kiuhang had left the Canton Wharf about
15 minutes, a Chinaman jumped overboard
from the after deck of the steamer. A
life-buoy was thrown to him, the steamer
rounded to and a boat was lowered as
quickly as possible, but after all these
efforts, no signs of the man could be seen.
The steamer therefore proceeded on her
voyage to Canton.

The O. S. S. *Ulysses*, which arrived here
to-day from Liverpool and Singapore, has
been placed in quarantine owing to
there being a case of small-pox on
board. We are given to understand that
the Second Officer is the only person
on board suffering from the scourge, and
that the case is of the mildest form. No
communication is allowed with a vessel,
however, which is anchored near Stone-
Cutter's Island.

A SCHOONER was launched this morning
from the Patent Slip and Dock Company's
premises at Belcher's Bay. She has been
built to the order of the Canton Customs,
and is intended to be used as a tender for
the *Peng Chau Hai*. About thirty ladies
and gentlemen were present to witness the
launch, which was effected in a very satis-
factory manner. As the vessel left the ways
she was christened the *Lai Chi*, Mrs Cook
performing the ceremony. The following
are the dimensions of the vessel, which is
built of teakwood,—length over all, 90 feet;
length between perpendiculars, 80 ft.; ex-
treme breadth, 20 ft. 6 inches; depth of

Suleiman Pasha has with him at Drama 108 battalions and 115 guns.

A Gallipoli despatch says: Paolo prevails here, in consequence of a report that the Russians are between Unun Dorian and Koshan, ten hours' march from hence. Orders have been received from Stamboul to resist any advance. Troops are expected from Smyrna and the Dardanelles.

Police Intelligence.

(By James Russell, Esq.)
March 5, 1878.

DISORDERLY.

Thomas King, an engineer unemployed, was charged with wilfully breaking a jade stone bangle at Yowmaitee whilst under the influence of liquor. He was ordered to pay \$8.70, the value of the bangle, or go to Gaol for seven days, and to be further imprisoned for 21 days for the assault.

LARCENY.

Li Akai, a coolie, was sent to 14 days' hard labour for stealing vegetables.

GAMBLING.

Wong Apo, a shop coolie, was fined \$2 for street gambling.

LARCENY.

Chan Apul, a hawk, was sent to 2 months' hard labour for stealing a jacket and a pair of trousers.

RACE TROUBLES.

Mr John Jester, and Mr John Humby, of Queen's Road Central, were summoned at the instance of one Francis Rangel, a shopkeeper residing at No. 2 Graham Street, for assaulting him. It appears that the trouble had arisen out of a dispute about a sweepstake. The evidence, however, was so very conflicting that Mr Russell dismissed the case, and told Mr Jester there was nothing against him.

China.

SHANGHAI.

(News.)

A meeting of shareholders in the Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Company was held yesterday (Feb. 26th). The report and accounts show a net profit of Tls. 27,067. A dividend paid last July, at the rate of 4 per cent., absorbed Tls. 8,600; and it was decided to declare a further dividend of 6 per cent., which will absorb Tls. 12,900, and Tls. 5,000 carried forward to depreciation, and Tls. 657 written off to new account.

Messrs. Bell, Sutherland, Westall and McLeod, together with the senior representative of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company, were re-elected Directors.

TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGES.

(Mitchell's Maritime Register.)

At a recent meeting of the Tynemouth Town Council, attention was directed to a subject of the utmost consequence to all concerned in the trade with foreign countries, namely, the mistakes which it is alleged are occasionally made in the transmission of telegraphic messages to distant ports. The subject came formally before the Town Council on the report of its Trade and Commerce Committee, and which report contained a recommendation to memorialise the Postal Telegraph authorities. The memorialists speak apparently of facts within their knowledge, and the Mayor of Tynemouth detailed his personal experience of telegraphic blunders, which might have been—perhaps have been—attended by serious consequences. For example, a message relating to a timber cargo from "Sundswald," in Sweden, was telegraphed "off Sunderland," another message, being a reply to an offer of freight from Bombay of Rs. 2,000, was telegraphed, "Take Rs. 1,500," and a third message, relating to a cargo on board the sender's vessel at the same port, and which was of special importance inasmuch as there was a dispute respecting it, the words "Detain the Charter" were made to read in the telegram "Retain the Charter." We give the statement of these errors as it was made at a meeting of the Town Council of Tynemouth, and by a Shipowner considerably interested in the foreign trade of the Tyne. It was suggested that these and similar mistakes occur at the London end, and are due to the incompetence of the clerks who are employed on the work. As to this we can offer no opinion; but if, as there seems to be no doubt, such blunders do occur, it is the bounden duty of Postal Telegraph authorities to ascertain the cause and to apply the remedy. When the Post office was authorised by Parliament to assume the management of the telegraphic system, it was, of course, in the belief that the work of transmitting messages would be more efficiently, as well as more economically, performed than it had been when in the hands of public companies. The blunders cited by the Mayor of Tynemouth at the recent meeting of the Town Council could not have originated with the sender; but there are, no doubt, cases in which failures may be traced to illegible writing in the original message. If that body is correct in attributing the blame to the inefficiency of the clerks in the London office, there will be little or no difficulty in abating the evil. The class of persons engaged in the transmission and transcribing of telegraphic messages should be distinguished for intelligence and accuracy. The services of such persons can be obtained, and if it is a question simply of remuneration, the public will certainly not object to an increased expenditure if it is necessary for the effectual improvement of the telegraphic system.

A MOSQUITO BAND.

The following extract is from the *Harvard Quarterly Magazine*, a most serious paper, edited and issued, if our memory serves us correctly, by the students and professors of Harvard College, who could not of course be suspected of admitting into the columns of their journal anything approaching a jest.

A Mosquito Band.—But the strangest thing going on now is the mosquito band. It was a long time before any one could be got to believe in it, in spite of huge posters in its praise on every blank space. The whole thing reads like a gigantic hoax; and yet, in fact when seen, it is simple in the extreme. Now that disbelief is overcome, crowds go every day, and even 150 can listen to it at the same time.

You know D—, the man with the

educated fleas! Well, he is the originator of this mosquito band. He found, after a time, that his fleas began to fall in drawing—not their coach, but the public—he set his brain to work to find some new sensation. His thoughts naturally fell on mosquitoes, and he started at first to train them as he had before trained fleas. He found them much more intelligent than he had expected, and the time was not far off for exhibiting them when a new idea struck him. Being continually with the little creatures he grew so accustomed to them and their singing, that he got to know one from another by the tone of its singing, and the idea that struck him was, could not this difference in tone be utilized in some way? The idea, as is the way with ideas in some men's brains, grew and grew till it resulted in the making and patenting of the mosquito band.

Let me describe the nature of this band before I tell you its glorious effect. It consists of twenty square wooden boxes, about six inches square each way. The tops of these boxes can be opened or shut by drawing them back as may be wanted. Attached at right angles to the top of each box is a fine but very powerful sounding-board. Inside each box is a complete lining wire of close network which can be quickly rotated. In each box is placed a mosquito, each mosquito's sing-sing being of different tone, so that the twenty mosquitoes in the twenty boxes make a diatonic succession of twenty tones. D— found some difficulty, at first, in getting mosquitoes for the extreme upper and lower notes; but by some means or other which is known only to himself he modified the normal sing-sing by artificial means. The band is played thus:—The wire networks of all the boxes are set in motion, so that each mosquito must, willy-nilly, keep in constant motion, and so give forth a constant sing-sing. A note is sounded by the top of the box being withdrawn, when the sound, impinging on the sound-boards, is thence instantly sent back to the audience greatly increased in volume. By these means D— is enabled to play a great variety of airs.

But the most remarkable thing of all is the internal softness, purity, and tenderness of the music rendered. Its effect is indescribably pleasant and fairy-like, thrilling through the brain, and lending a godlike intoxication. In proof of this, I may tell you that the crash heard so great, and those who have once heard are so anxious to come again, that for the first week only 500 people entered—150 is the largest number that can hear at one time—the same individuals coming again and again. This, however, D— has now stopped, for he has made a rule that no one shall come in twice till the whole town has been there. There are five hundred thousand inhabitants, so it will be some time before we have once heard it get another chance.

A NEW ITALIAN IRON-CLAD.

The new armour-plated vessel, *Italia*, now being constructed at Castellamare, will be the largest of all war ships hitherto built. Her dimensions are—length, 120 metres; width, 22m; height, 15m; draught of water, 8.50; displacement, when loaded, 15,000 tons; weight of the hull alone, 5,000 tons. She will have a double bottom and water-tight compartments, and in the centre will be an oval turret for the guns. She will also be furnished with two screws 6 metres in diameter, driven by two independent engines with six cylinders; there will be 28 boilers, capable of giving 13,000 horse-power, and producing a speed of 16 knots. The Minister of Marine has said that he intends giving the *Italia* guns larger than the 100-ton guns, and to cover her with plates more than 55cm. in thickness. The entire cost will be 20 million francs.

GENERAL ULYSSES GRANT ON VOLUNTEERS.

At a banquet given by the Corporation of Brighton, General Grant spoke of the English Reserve Forces. He said:—"They are what the English speaking people are to rely on in the future. I belong to that class myself. I believe that wherever there is a great war between one great civilized nation and another it will be these forces in which they will have to place their confidence. We English-speaking people do keep up the public schools in order to maintain and advance the general intelligence of our country, and in time they fit our people for Volunteer service and for higher training. You will always find men among them who are equal to any occasion. In the course of my experience I went out as a Volunteer, and I had occasion to build a bridge 2000 feet long across a very rapid stream, and I found that the Volunteers were capable of doing the work. It was during the Vicksburg campaign, and the success of this among Volunteers, but never among Regulars. We don't find that intelligence in the rank and file of the Regulars. They can do manual labour, but among the Volunteers you find that you have mechanics and men of every profession and capacity, so that with them I built 2000 feet of bridge where there was great depth of water and great swiftness of stream, and that, too, with very little delay. That is where the Volunteers come in and play the most active part, and the ablest part."

LONDON GOSSIP.

(Pioneer.)

LONDON, 4th January, 1878.

London is just beginning to shake off its Christmas inebriety. Hitherto, until this morning, the metropolis seemed to be playing at politics as if it might at forfeits. On Saturday Lord Campbell and Stratheden had a Turkish gathering in Trafalgar Square, of perhaps 5,000 people, in great part roughs and rioters. This demonstration would have fallen flat if a pro-Russian mob, likewise consisting chiefly of roughs and idlers, with a contingent of masons on strike, had not crowded into the square at the same time. This redeemed the affair from dullness, for there was a cheerful Christmas fight. Some days later, Mr Merriman, who is certainly one of the silliest personages in the Empire, convened an anti-Turkish meeting, which was attended by some fifty other most respectable blockheads. The speeches delivered and letters read on that occasion were most genial and seasonable in their purport. For presumption and ignorance of geography, history, and elementary politics, they were just such as might have proceeded from the more promising alumnus of a preparatory school. And in the same way all political movements

outside the Council of Ministers and the trenchant articles of rival newspapers, have had the air of boyish escapades. Now, however, politics are beginning to be taken up again in earnest. The *des peres*, though sweet, is felt to be no longer in loco. The time for exclusive dedication to Christmas festivity and pantomimes and children's parties is passing away, and people are taking seriously again to serious things. Yesterday a quite extraordinary ferment was occasioned by the publication of Lord Carnarvon's speech of the previous day to the Cape Colony deputation. In what direction public expectation previously ran may be judged from the fact that his declaration of the utter unlikelihood of war with Russia excited as profound a sensation as if he had declared a declaration of war imminent. It is collision between fact and anticipation that gives the shock of surprise; and the surprise at Lord Carnarvon's balm and benign utterances was great and general. But even that was nothing to the sensation produced this morning by a wonderful leading article in the *Daily Telegraph*. I don't think I ever remember such a commotion raised by an isolated newspaper utterance. People for the moment seem to be unable to talk of anything else. I am sure a dozen men already have asked me "what I think of it." Well, what I think of it is this—that, though great effects have often been caused by a single word, no such vehement excitement has ever before been produced by a blank, a dash (—). It is a striking case of the *quo magis quod non*. No eloquence could have equalled the impressiveness of the *Telegraph's* reticence. I am forced to quote the whole passage from the *Daily Telegraph* in order to explain this. Mr Edwin Arnold is writing about Lord Carnarvon's curious speech of Wednesday, and says:—"Here is a Colonial Secretary, having no connection department with foreign politics, who, receiving notice that a deputation of hide and wool merchants, anxious about Ceteaway, is coming to talk about Natal, replies with unfailing lucidity to that part of their business, and then, with calm forebodingness of the weightier topic of the afternoon (the Cabinet Council which was to meet) 'proceeds to gossip upon continental affairs, over which he is much too intelligent not to have been meditating. . . . Why should a conscientious Minister be so particular? The reproach of the erring Minister' (said Lord Carnarvon) 'on the present occasion has been more gentle. In the natural course of events he repaired last night to Osborne, and with the solemnity inseparable from the occasion, he tendered (it is this —) which is considered so significant' . . . all the graceful locutions which so well become him at the dinner-table of Her Majesty. And the Queen, being wise, comely, dignified, and imperial as she is, could not, we are sure, forget how excellent a colonial administrator he is, or how slight a hint of the kind which brought Lord Aberdeen to his senses, would simply suffice for this much more patriotic offender." Now this is understood, rightly or wrongly, as stating as a fact that Lord Carnarvon, after his Cape deputation language, thought it incumbent on him to "tender" his resignation to Her Majesty, which the Queen, though intimating her regret at his language, did not think it necessary to accept. It may of course be all a mystification on the part of the *Telegraph* (which does sometimes deal in such things), or the *Telegraph* may have been (which is also, and more often, have been) mystified itself; but I incline to accept the interpretation which people in general have put upon the *Telegraph's* strange article, as more or less authentic. This opinion is strengthened by the perplexity into which the appearance of the *Telegraph's* editorial has thrown the *Telegraph's* great rival in the London Press. A man came to me only half-an-hour ago and said—"I have just seen—of the Times. They are furious there at having been excluded from all inkling of the scene at Osborne. And to this moment they don't know whether to deny the *Telegraph's* fact, or only to explain away its inference. Of course it is in any case the inference which is the important part of the matter. If Lord Carnarvon tendered his resignation, it is that the Queen, while waiting its acceptance, afterwards gently hinted a rebuke, it may mean that Her Majesty intimated her preference for a more realistic and patriotic policy than Lord Carnarvon's language admitted; or it may simply signify that she disapproved of a single member of her Cabinet indulging in independent expressions of opinion calculated to compromise and embarrass the action of the Ministry as a whole. Lord Carnarvon's consent to retain office would of course bear a very different significance in the two cases. In the one case it would be merely a promise not to be so insubordinate; in the other, to be more patriotic for the future."

At a party which I attended on New Year's Eve, I saw a very pretty and novel version of the Christmas Tree. The "tree," indeed, was no further a tree than that it was made of wood. In short, it was nothing else than a very elegant model of Copleston's Needle, about eight feet high, of a brownish-red colour, covered with carved hieroglyphics. These hieroglyphics, however, were not a good deal more than ornaments. They were, so to say, the handles by which to move some forty or fifty little cupboards in the body of the Needle. The doors, or flaps of these cupboards swung from hinges above, so that pressing your finger against the projecting edge of a hieroglyphic, and pulling slightly upwards and outwards, the flap opened, revealing a pigeon-hole containing some treasure or other. The lower ones, that is to say those within the reach of the shorter children, contained gifts adapted to little people, such as little dolls, picture-books, bon-bon boxes, toys of various kinds, palanquins, and so forth. A little higher up the monument the cupboards when opened disclosed knick-knacks and presents for somewhat older children—work-boxes, writing-desks, handsome bibles and prayer-books, silver brooches and photographic medallions, and toys of a more complex description, including one "working model of a locomotive," which must have cost a lot of money. Highest of all, to be reached only by those who could stretch up some six feet or so, the pigeon-holes, fewer in number, had still more costly contents—glove-boxes with half-dozen of kid gloves inside, silver necklaces or bracelets, beautiful fans, a tortoise-shell snuff-box, a little clock which goes equally well whether it stands on its head or its heels, and other things which I can't remember. Children and all, I think, there were about six-and-twenty of us. We were imprisoned altogether in the large drawing-room, while the Needle and its contents were being finally arranged in the other. Then the

curtains between the two rooms were drawn aside, and disclosed the interior of the house and one of his two daughters standing in a brilliant light, one on each side of the obelisk. One knot then gave us a burlesque harangue on Egyptian obelisks and the mysterious language of hieroglyphics. "The monument which we were then beholding contained divers of the treasures of Egypt, but so cunningly concealed by the magicians of that land, and protected by so potent a spell, that only those could reach the treasures who were able to solve the secret of the hieroglyphics." His daughter then, as it were, opened, one after another, several of the flaps in different parts of the front of the Needle, just giving us glimpses of the prizes within. It was then announced that we were to go in, three at a time, the smallest first, and try our skill at the hieroglyphics. Some of these hieroglyphics were dummies—that is to say, there were no cupboards to which they were "the open sesame"—and it was very funny and pleasant to watch the excited impatience of the little tots who happened to be working away at the wrong birds or beasts on the obelisk. As soon as a child denoted by a shriek of joy that he, or she, had found his, or her, way to a prize, the happy discoverer was marched out through another door back into the large drawing-room, where the exhibition of the spoil of conquest, still waiting their turn, almost to freeze, together this Copleston's Needle was a brilliant success, far more so than any Christmas Tree I have ever seen. In the first place, the amusement is spread over a longer time, and then it is in more of the lottery element which children love so dearly. The impediment in the way of its frequent adoption is of course its much greater expense. I don't think the cost of obelisks and contents together can have been much less than a hundred pounds. Three children of Lord Carnarvon's were at this party—two girls of about twelve and ten respectively, and a little boy—with the lady who, since Lady Carnarvon's death, has had charge of them. The little boy, about seven or eight, is, I believe, Lord Carnarvon's eldest son. He seemed to me rather delicate, much more so than his sister, but he enjoyed himself frantically over Copleston's Needle. I make no apology for talking so much about children and children's amusements. This is their season. The oppression they exercise, in the matter of Christmas and New Year's cards alone, heavy upon adults. We to you, if you forget the exact Christian name of a single child in a family (say of seven, and misdirected a single envelope—for of course each card must be in a separate cover. I see that you are affected even in India with the Christmas card epidemic, for one of the very prettiest cards I have seen came to me last Monday from India. Here it is an absolute novelty. In some families they are received literally by the hundred. Now is even this so wonderful as that they should be distributed gratis by tradesmen, not in gratitude among their customers only, but spread about broadcast among the public at large as advertisements. I enclose you one as a sample. It is not truly, is it? Well, this was simply dropped into the letter-box in my brother-in-law's house and I have every reason to believe that every letter-box in the neighbourhood was favoured in the same way. Now, considering that "P. L. 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